



TO BE HIS LIGHT THAT TRANSFORMS LIVES

**CONTACTS**

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 Website [www.stjohnsuccnewport.org](http://www.stjohnsuccnewport.org)  
 Facebook St. John's United Church of Christ–Newport, KY

<b>PROGRAM</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>TIME</b>
Coffee Fellowship Time	Fellowship Hall (L.L.)	9:00 a.m.
Worship	Sanctuary	10:00 a.m.
Infant, Toddler, Preschool & School Age Child Care	South Hallway	9:30 a.m.

**CHURCH STAFF**

<b>POSITION</b>	<b>PERSON</b>	<b>CONTACT</b>
Designated Pastor	J. Martin Westermeyer	Shaman4@zoomtown.com
Pastor of Visitation	John Robson	Jmarrobson@gmail.com
Director Of Music/Organist	Michael Sullivan	Michael.Sullivan@stjohnsuccnewport.org
Associate Director of Music	Dobin Park	Pianist0587@gmail.com
Office Administrator	Kelli Taylor	Kelli.Taylor@stjohnsuccnewport.org
Director of Communication & Outreach	Kyle Taylor	Kyle.Taylor@stjohnsuccnewport.org
Financial Administrator	Chris Baker	Financialadmin@stjohnsuccnewport.org

**CHURCH LEADERS**

<b>PERSON</b>	<b>POSITION</b>	<b>CONTACT</b>
Kyle Taylor	Church President	859-394-5256
David Stamm	Church Vice President	859-322-2426
Pat Goins	Church Secretary	859-250-2830
Vickie Kennedy	Church Treasurer	859-653-2630 text or call

**Church Office Hours**

Monday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
 Tuesday Closed  
 Wednesday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
 Thursday Closed  
 Friday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
 Calls will be answered off-site on days when the office is closed.



March 24, 2024  
10:00 a.m.  
**Sixth Sunday in Lent**  
**Palm Sunday**



**Prayer of Meditation before Worship**

Grant us openness, good Lord, to welcome Your blessed Son  
into our hearts and souls in the same manner in which He entered Jerusalem long ago.  
Give us strength to remain loyal to Him even through a cross of suffering and sacrifice;  
by Your grace may we crown Him Lord and King forever. Amen.

\*All who are able are welcome to stand

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Prelude** *Prelude on "Wondrous Love"* (Gordon Young)

**Tower Bell**

**Introit**

Oh, sacred head now wounded, with grief, and shame weighed down,  
Now scornfully surrounded with thorns thine only crown:  
O sacred head what glory; what bliss till now was thine;  
Yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call thee mine.

**\*Call to Worship**

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!

**Hosanna in the highest!**

Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors!

**That the King of Glory may come in!**

Who is the King of Glory?

**The Lord of Hosts, He is the King of Glory!**

Let us Worship as witnesses of God!

**Welcoming and Leading Us This Morning**

Preaching Today: Rev. J. Martin Westermeyer

Liturgist: Vickie Grey Kennedy

Organist: Michael Sullivan

Choral Director: Dobin Park

Sound Technician: Robert Pettus

Greeters: Darlene Knepshield

Ushers: Steve Twehues, Ralph Schoulthies & Mike Hanson

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**This Week**

- Sunday, March 24:** 10:00 a.m. Worship Service/Palm Sunday
- Monday, March 25:** 7:00 p.m. AA & Al-Anon Meeting
- Tuesday, March 26:** 7:00 p.m. NA Meeting
- Thursday, March 28:** 3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Yoga Class Fellowship Hall  
7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service
- Saturday, March 30:** 9:00 a.m. AA Meeting
- Sunday, March 31:** 8:15 a.m.-9:45 a.m. Easter Breakfast Fellowship Hall  
10:00 a.m. Worship Service/Easter Sunday

### Hearing Assistance

We have wireless receivers for the hearing impaired which you may obtain from an usher.

### Pastoral Care Notice

If a pastoral care need arises, please contact the church office at (859) 431-1818 and we will get a message to Pastor Marty or Pastor John Robson to contact you.

### In Our Prayers

Joan Berkemeyer, Norma Biery, Ernie Brady Sr., Flo Grey, Betty Jo Haas, Donna & Phil Hamilton, Marilyn Hanson, Melvin Hanson, Betty Hasse, Chuck Hawkins, Henry Marksberry, Bill Seibert, Ed Von Strohe, Bonnie Walter, Wendy Watts & Betty Webster

### Continued Prayerful Support

Homebound members.  
Those in assisted living and nursing homes.  
Church Leadership Team, Ministry Teams, and all our church leaders.  
Designated Pastor Rev. J. Martin Westermeyer  
Pastor of Visitation John Robson

### Homebound Member of the Week

Our homebound member of the week is Betty Hasse. Take a moment this week to send her a card or give her a call as we celebrate Betty as our member of the week!

Her address is:

Betty Hasse  
500 Lakeview Drive #103  
Wilder, KY 41071

### Children's Activity Bags

Activity bags for the children are located at each entrance of the church. Feel free to pick up a bag for your child (children) to work on during the worship service. When the service is done just drop the bags off at each exit so that we may replenish the bags for the following week.

### Audio Recordings of Our Sunday Services

Did you miss a Sunday service or would like to hear one over again? You can get a CD audio recording of any service each week down on the table located at the North Lobby entrance. The recordings are separated by date so just look for the service you want to hear and take it home.

### Online Video Worship Services Return

After a slight pause, St. John's online video worship services have returned. You can view the services through our church website [www.stjohnsuccnewport.org](http://www.stjohnsuccnewport.org), our Church's Facebook Page or YouTube Channel (just search our church's name on Facebook/YouTube) and through the Constant Contact weekly email, (just click the online worship button at the bottom of the page). Please be patient as we work out any technical issues that may arise. Hope you enjoy the services!

### \*Hymn

*"The Palms"*

*(Faure)*

1. **O'er all the way, green palms and blossoms gay  
Are strewn this day in festal preparation.  
Where Jesus comes to wipe our tears away,  
E'en now the throng to welcome him prepare.**

#### **Refrain:**

**Join all and sing, his name declare,  
Let every voice resound with acclamation.  
Hosanna! Praise to the Lord,  
Bless him who cometh to bring us salvation.**

2. **His word goes forth and people by its might,  
Once more regain freedom from degradation;  
Humanity doth give to each his right  
While those in darkness are restored to light.**

#### **Refrain:**

3. **Sing and rejoice, O blest Jerusalem,  
Of all thy sons sing the emancipation.  
Through boundless love, the Christ of Bethlehem,  
Brings forth the hope to thee for-ever-more.**

#### **Refrain:**

### **\*Prayer of Confession (done responsively)**

Knowing that God is slow to anger and plenteous in mercy; knowing that God sustains us with a supportive presence, we confess our sin together:

**Eternal Spirit, we confess that the world, and we ourselves, cannot contain too much of Your love. You sent Jesus to come before us as Messiah, that we may experience the ways that lead to abundant life. In attempting to follow this way, we have often erred and strayed like lost sheep.**

Knowing our weakness, we pray together, saying:

**God, we confess that our faith crumbles easily when we are beset with difficulties, trials, and tribulations. Give us the wisdom to understand our sinfulness and our frailty. Give us the humility to rely upon you to guide us on the narrow way that we cannot follow by ourselves. You are our Savior and not we ourselves. In your time, deliver us, forgive us, and liberate us, O Holy One, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**\*Assurance of Grace**

Hear the Good News! God is slow to anger and plenteous in mercy. God continues to love us and support us where we are. Thanks be to God! Dearly Beloved, believe the Good News!

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, now and forever. Amen.**

**\*Gloria Patri**

*(Greatest)*

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son  
and to the Holy Ghost  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

**From the Poetry of the Old Testament: Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29**

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
his steadfast love endures forever!  
Let Israel say,  
“His steadfast love endures forever.”

Open to me the gates of righteousness,  
that I may enter through them  
and give thanks to the Lord.  
This is the gate of the Lord;  
the righteous shall enter through it.  
I thank you that you have answered me  
and have become my salvation.  
The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone.  
This is the Lord’s doing;  
it is marvelous in our eyes.  
This is the day that the Lord has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.  
Save us, we beseech you, O Lord!  
O Lord, we beseech you, give us success!  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
We bless you from the house of the Lord.  
The Lord is God,  
and he has given us light.  
Bind the festal procession with branches,  
up to the horns of the altar.  
You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;  
you are my God; I will extol you.  
O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,  
for his steadfast love endures forever.

**BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 24TH**

March 26th: Henry Marksberry

March 30th: Mike Hanson

**ANNIVERSARIES FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 24TH**

March 30th: Carol & Ralph Schoulthies (61 years)

**MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE**

Thursday, March 28th

7:00 p.m.

Communion will be served by Intinction

**EASTER BREAKFAST AND EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP AT ST. JOHN’S**

The Leadership Team will be coming together to serve an Easter Breakfast to all of our members and friends. Please join us on **Sunday, March 31st** beginning at **8:15 a.m.** in Fellowship Hall for a breakfast of pastries, coffee cakes, fruit, bagels/donuts, different breakfast casseroles, and drinks. Then join us at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary for our Easter Worship Service with Communion and special music. Join us as we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. All are welcome and bring a friend

**SHARING THE UPPER ROOM**

“Christ is among us in fresh ways when we gather together, listening to God and to each other.” (The Upper Room) Please consider joining us on the last Saturday of each month for a spiritual discussion group. We will share scripture, meditation, prayer, and conversation regarding how God works within us and around us. Discussion will center on how we live our lives, and how we hear and respond to God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. We’ll use *The Upper Room* as our resource because this is easily available to us through our church. Xerox copies of the meditation and the discussion questions will be available to pick up the Sunday before each session. We’ll begin with one gathering a month and increase our time together if those involved feel that calling. Over time we’ll consider using other suggested resources specific for small groups and spiritual growth.

We’ll meet at St. John’s UCC in Newport, the last Saturday of each month, from 10:00 am–11:00 am, in the church chapel area (near the church parlor).

All are welcome! Bring a friend. No reservations required. We hope to see you on April 27. We’ll be using the meditation from Wednesday April 24, “God Provides Strength”. When I focus on God, I will find renewed strength. Reading from Hebrews 12:1-11. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

Eternal God, we bring these gifts before You this morning as tokens of our appreciation in allowing Your Son to enter into our lives. Use them to spread Your Word to the world as You see the need. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

**\*Hymn #284**                      *"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"*                      *(Passion Chorale)*

**\*Benediction**

**\*Choral Response (All Sing)**

Jesus to Calv'ry did go, his love for sinners to show,  
What he did there brought hope from despair.  
O how he loves you, O how he loves me, O how he loves you and me!

**Postlude**                                      *"Rigaudon"*                                      *(Andre' Campra)*

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**WELCOME!**

Welcome to this house of prayer and worship!  
We pray that your experience of worship will deepen your faith and prepare you for the week ahead. We believe God's Spirit is present in our listening to the Word and our response of discipleship. In our greeting of one another we sense the presence of Christ.

May you know His grace and peace today!  
**Please sign the guest register when it comes to your seat.**



Flowers in church today are provided by the Sanctuary Flower Fund.  
If you or anyone you know would benefit from the beauty and joy of the arrangement, please feel free to take them.

Open flower dates are April 14th, 21st & 28th  
To reserve your special date, please call the church office.

**Childrens Chat**

Vickie Grey Kennedy

**From the Letters of Paul: Philippians 2:5-11**

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,  
who, though he existed in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be grasped,  
but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
assuming human likeness.  
And being found in appearance as a human,  
he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross.  
Therefore God exalted him even more highly  
and gave him the name  
that is above every other name,  
so that at the name given to Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father

**Anthem**

*"The Holy City"*                                      *(Stephen Adams)*

Last night I lay a sleeping, There came a dream so fair:  
I stood in old Jerusalem, Beside the temple there;  
I heard the children singing; And ever as they sang,  
Me thought the voice of angels, From heav'n in answer rang;  
"Jerusalem! Jerusalem! Lift up your gates and sing,  
Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna to your King!"

And once again the scene was chang'd, New earth there seemed to be,  
I saw the Holy City Beside the tideless sea;  
The light of God was on its streets, The gates were open wide,  
And all who would might enter And no one was denied.  
No need of moon or stars by night, Or sun to shine by day,  
It was the new Jerusalem That would not pass away.

Jerusalem! Jerusalem! Sing, for the night is o'er!  
Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna forever more!

## From the Gospels: Mark 11:1-11

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this: 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They told them what Jesus had said, and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple, and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

**Sermon** "Who Is This?" Rev. J. Martin Westermeyer

### Affirmation of Faith: Trust In God

**We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba Father.**

**In sovereign love God created the world good**

**and makes everyone equally in God's image,**

**male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.**

**Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.**

**Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,**

**like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.**

**With believers in every time and place,**

**we rejoice that nothing in life or death can separate us from**

**the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**\*Hymn #267**

*"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"*

*(Ellacombe)*

### Gathering Together in Prayer

**Joys & Concerns – Silent Prayer – Pastoral Prayer**

### The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

## Response

Sing Twice

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

### Offertory Invitation

The Bearer of Sorrows gave life itself, in total dedication to God's way of love. We too have the privilege of investing our lives for others. The tithes and offerings we dedicate here are symbols of our willingness to answer God's call with all our time and talents.

### Offertory

*"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"*

*(Gilbert Martin)*

When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss,  
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
Save in the death of Christ, my God!  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to his blood,

See, from his head, his hands, his feet,  
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were a present far too small;  
Love, so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life my all! Amen!

### \*Doxology

*(Old 100th)*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise Him all creatures here below  
Praise Him above ye heavenly host  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost Amen**